



JACK DOYLE

MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

For Immediate Release:

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County To Sell Iola Powerhouse

*Sale will generate at least \$5 million in revenue
and provide for cheaper, cleaner energy at County facilities*

Monroe County Executive **Jack Doyle** today announced that the County plans to sell the Iola Powerhouse for a minimum of \$5 million. The deal also includes plans for Siemens Building Technologies to construct and operate natural gas fired cogeneration units or a new sustainable energy power plant. Either option would provide the County with significant energy cost savings, and be more environmentally responsible than the current coal-burning powerhouse that will be demolished.

“Through this project we will improve our environment and reduce the cost of government to local taxpayers,” said Doyle. “The current powerhouse is old, inefficient and unsightly. Either of the new options will provide a significant improvement for neighbors and taxpayers alike.”

Under the first option, natural gas fired cogeneration units would be constructed by Siemens to provide power and steam to Monroe Community College and Monroe Community Hospital.

Under the second option, Monroe County would partner with the University of Rochester to utilize a new sustainable energy power plant constructed by Siemens near the site of the old Iola Powerhouse. This environmentally responsible technology has been implemented elsewhere by Siemens and others. The new power plant would use wood chips as a fuel source. This sustainable fuel source would consist of waste wood resources and dedicated energy crops, such as willows, grown by local farmers.

Discussions with the University of Rochester regarding the new sustainable energy power plant are taking place.

“County government continues to reform its operations to benefit taxpayers. A new sustainable energy plant at Iola would save money for taxpayers, who ultimately pay the bills, while strengthening our local economy and protecting the environment,” said Doyle. “The project would provide a tremendous benefit for all parties involved including taxpayers, neighbors and local workers.”

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The sustainable energy power plant, if proven viable, would also have a significant impact on the local economy. Siemens estimates that over 100 new jobs would be created locally, along with area workers benefiting from the millions of dollars spent in constructing the new facility. In addition, local farmers will benefit from selling wood from willow trees grown on land that currently lies fallow and is unusable for other crops.

Doyle's proposal will be considered by the County Legislature during its September meeting.

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